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tain, within a few rods of the very highest point, and though they do not embrace plants of any special rarity, yet they were of interest to me, as being just what one would expect to find at such an elevation. The absence of any shade whatever and of any rich soil, to any extent, of course excludes many plants that otherwise would be found. On the way up the mountain, in the rich woods, I collected *Ribes rubrum* in fruit, and *Streptopus amplexifolius* was very abundant. Its coral red berries make it a very attractive plant. WALTER DEANE.

The Pinnatifid Leaves of Nasturtium Armoracia.

In Gray's Manual, revised edition, the leaves of this species are described as follows: "Root-leaves very large, oblong, crenate, *rarely* pinnatifid." My observations on the plant, conducted during a long and bitter struggle with it in my garden, lead me to conclude that the pinnatifid leaves are not rare, but periodical in their appearance. The order of the foliation of the plant, as noted by me for the past three years, is as follows: Early in the spring the leaves are small, dissected or dissected pinnatifid. Those next in order are larger and have broader lobes, and after a short time these in turn are succeeded by the broad or summer leaves. Often a single plant will have a series of leaves showing a complete gradation from the dissected to the broad blade. The broad leaves are characteristic of the summer state of the plant, and I have never seen a pinnatifid leaf in midsummer. Early in the fall the new leaves as they appear have more deeply crenate-toothed margins, and as the season advances, many of the plants send out truly pinnatifid leaves again. There are indications that this would be the case with all if the season of growth were longer, for the buds of all usually contain undeveloped pinnatifid leaves when the frost kills the foliage. In October of the present year, every plant, in over forty which I examined, had some of the leaves pinnatifid. As the plant appears in our gardens there is no assignable cause for so marked a change of foliage. The history of the plant, so far as I can find out, is silent as to its habits in the wild state, but it prefers, in this country, rich wet ground, rarely thriving on high and dry soils. This fact, taken in connection with others, as the habits of allied plants, notably *N. lacustre*, and that many aquatic exogenous plants have dissected leaves, would lead to the conclusion that our plant had been an aquatic at some period of its history. My own conclusion in regard to it is that it was originally an aquatic, but under a gradual change of condition of its surroundings, probably the drying up in summer of the shallow water in which it lived, it acquired a form suitable for emersed conditions, became amphibious as it were. Possibly it would be better to suppose a marshy habitat, subject to fall and winter overflow, but as ponds and lakes usually preceded marshes it is perhaps best to trace this interesting case of heredity, if such it be, to them rather than to marshy ground. CHAS. A. DAVIS.

Alma, Mich., Oct. 25, 1890.

Botanical Notes.

Appointment of Dr. Thos. Morong to the Curatorship of the Columbia College Herbarium.

After an absence of over two years in southern South America, during which time he has collected a very large and valuable representation of the plants of that region, Dr. Morong has returned in health and safety. All botanists will bid him cordial welcome, both on his safe return and his entry upon a new sphere of usefulness and activity. The trustees of Columbia College have appointed him to be Curator of their herbarium, a position which has not been occupied since the death of Mr. P. V. LeRoy. In this appointment an important step has been made in the progress of American systematic botany. N. L. B.

Hepaticeæ Britannicæ Exsiccatæ, Carrington and Pearson; Fas. IV., Nos. 216-290; price 1£ 10s., Manchester, Eccles, England. As many of the British species are common to America, we take pleasure in commending these neatly prepared sets. They are bound in cloth, large octavo. We may state here that the hepatic collections of C. F. Austin were purchased by Messrs. Carrington and Pearson, so that it is to them that we must look for comparisons with many types of American species.

New Localities.—Ligusticum Scoticum, L. A few plants of this species grow beside the salt creek on the west side of Black Point,